



Kicking it
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The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil
website: huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

TRICARE briefings postponed

TRICARE for Life Briefings have been postponed due to continued security concerns at this time. Disregard publicity advertising the Oct. 17-19 briefings. TRICARE briefings will be rescheduled and will be further advertised in local media. For more information, call 533-1204.

CSM farewell luncheon

The public is invited to a farewell, retirement luncheon for Command Sgt. Maj. William Hargis on Oct. 31, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Lakeview Lounge. Cost is \$8 per person for the fajita bar. RSVP at 533-3295 by Monday.

Trick or Treating times

On-post Trick or Treating hours for Halloween are 6 to 8 p.m., Oct. 31 for children up to 12 years of age. Children, five and under, must be accompanied by an adult. Due to heightened security, trick or treating will be restricted to on-post residents only. The Directorate of Public Safety has distributed 2000 reflective treat bags to the post schools. DPS also reminds employees that if they choose to dress up, using discretion is advised and no masks, fake guns, swords, etc. are recommended.

Harvest Fest planning begins

Volunteers are needed to help with the Harvest Fest set for Oct. 31. A planning meeting is set for 6:30-7:30 p.m., Oct. 25 at the Main Post Chapel, Room 38. Decorating will be 6:30-8 p.m., Oct. 30. Everyone is invited to attend. Harvest Fest is an alternative to Halloween.

Everyone is invited to attend the Harvest Fest, Oct. 31, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel activities room. Dress up in your favorite costume and join us for games, crafts, and prizes. For more information, call Donna Irsik at 459-4877.

Range closures

Today: AA, AC, AD, AG, AW, T1, T1A, T2. Friday: AA, AC, AD, AG, AP AU, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2. Saturday: AM, AP, AV, AY, AB, T1, T1A, T2. Sunday: AP, AQ, AV.

For more information, call Range Control at 533-7095.

Van shuttle ends

The van shuttle from Chaffee Field to Greely Hall has been terminated because of non-usage. Previous van riders are advised to use the newly assigned parking area at Greely Hall.

Federal Jobs Workshop

The next Federal Jobs Workshop is 8-10 a.m., Friday at the Army Career and Alumni Program Center, Building 22420. These provide general information on how to find out where federal jobs are, how to apply for a federal job, employment benefits, looking at and understanding a federal pay scale, dissecting a federal job announcement, looking at a federal application, understanding veteran's preference, types of appointments, and how selections are made.

The workshop also covers specifically how to understand the RESUMIX process of applying for a job at Fort Huachuca.

Future workshops are scheduled Nov. 16 and Dec. 7.

Blood drive

The 111th Military Intelligence Brigade is sponsoring a blood drive at Eifler Gym, Friday, from 2-8 p.m.



Photo by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

Good clean fun

Capt. Andrew Pekala and son Andrew Pekala Jr. viewed the Tide National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing Winston Cup show car at the Fort Huachuca Commissary, Oct. 12-13. Al Morrison, the car's show driver said the vehicle is on display 300 consecutive days of the year.

Fort increases awareness of anthrax threat

By *Spc. Jessica Espinosa*
Scout Staff

Public health officials have discovered anthrax in New York, Florida and the District of Columbia in the past two weeks. Tests indicate that at least 13 people either have anthrax or were exposed to the anthrax spores.

The discovery of letters containing anthrax in three states has raised the alerted the nation to the possibility of bioterrorism. The FBI has not found a direct connection between the incidents, but Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said the anthrax cases are signs of bioterrorism.

Robert Stevens, a tabloid photo editor, died of inhalation anthrax Oct. 5 after opening a suspicious letter.

Because of this potential threat, the post military police have requested the Fort Huachuca U.S. Postal Service not leave packages at on-post housing. According to Rudy Ruiz, Operations Manager of the Sierra Vista Post Office, on-post residents are being given a notice to pick up their packages.

Because of the volume of packages received for Sierra Vista residents, they are still being left at residences. Military personnel who live downtown can request packages not be left at their residences. The request must be in writing. Address the letter "Attention: Supervisor" and place it in your mailbox.

Experts said anthrax is treatable and not contagious among humans, though it can be contracted from contaminated animals. Anthrax infection can occur in three forms: cutaneous (skin), inhalation (airborne), or gastrointestinal (ingestion), according to Lt. Col. Jane L. Lindner, chief of preventive medicine, wellness and readiness service at the Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center.

Antibiotics can be prescribed to treat anthrax infections. To be most effective, treatment should be initiated early. If left untreated the disease can be fatal, according to Lindner.

"Initial symptoms of inhalation anthrax resemble a common cold. After several days, the symptoms progress to severe breathing prob-

lems and shock. Death typically occurs within 24-36 hours after the onset of severe symptoms. Although the best treatment, of course, is prevention by immunization, those who are exposed and not immunized may be treated with antibiotics," Lindner said.

Should Fort Huachuca receive an anthrax scare the scene will be identified, secured and contained. Then necessary precautions will be taken for decontamination procedures, according to Stephen Hauck, installation fire chief.

"In my opinion we're prepared," Hauck said, should the post receive an anthrax scare. "I believe we have enough assets in the county, as well as the state we can call upon. Plus, we have assets locally on Fort Huachuca to respond to an immediate scare."

If you receive a package you are not expecting, examine it carefully to see if:

- there is a return address;
- you recognize the sender;
- the return address, city, or state is different than the postmark;
- the package has a strange odor or noise;
- many stamps were used instead of the postage meter strip from the USPS;

— the return address is from a well-known corporation, but it was sent first class (they never mail samples first class);

- different kinds of tape were used, including black electrical tape;
- the package has protruding wires or stains or is wrapped in brown paper;

— the package is marked with "Personal" or "Confidential."

Though there is yet no credible evidence linking the recent anthrax incidents to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the FBI is treating it as a criminal case. The Department of Defense and public health officials consider anthrax to be a potential agent for a bioterrorist attack. Certain countries have weaponized this agent or are suspected of doing so.

Additional information can be found at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/antrax_g.htm.

SGLI coverage for family members begins Nov. 1

Army News Service

Beginning in November, DoD will automatically provide insurance coverage for spouses and children under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, unless soldiers sign a form declining the additional coverage.

Soldiers will pay for their spouse's insurance coverage in their monthly payroll deduction, officials said. Those who want to cancel or reduce that insurance for their family members need to submit a SGLV Form 8286A to their command's service support center.

Spouses will be insured for a maximum of \$100,000 and children for \$10,000, through the SGLI for family members.

Children will be covered at no cost to the sponsor, said Robert Wagner, deputy of the Army's Casualty and Operations Center.

Spouses will be insured for a monthly premium of between \$9 and \$32 per month, depending on their ages and amount of coverage desired.

If no action is taken, Wagner said the maximum premium will automatically be deducted

from paychecks beginning in November for all soldiers, including those in the Army Reserve and National Guard.

A 30-day grace period for soldiers wanting to cancel or reduce their insurance begins with the program's implementation Nov. 1.

Although Nov. 20 is the last date that paperwork can be submitted to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service to affect that month's pay, officials said soldiers who fill out the SGLV Form 8286A before the end of November will be later reimbursed.

The SGLI for family members was brought about by legislation sponsored by the Veterans Administration and approved by Congress in May. It will be the first time spouses and chil-

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It is important for soldiers to be thinking about whether they want or need the insurance and discussing it with their spouses.

Robert Wagner



Girl Scout photo

Hand to hand

All levels of Fort Huachuca Girls Scout troops, from Daisy Girl Scouts to adult Girl Scouts, gathered and boxed personal items for the relief effort in New York. Pictured above, the girls helped with loading a truck at Horizon Movers of Sierra Vista. This service project has enabled these Girl Scouts to answer the question, “What can we do to help?”



Soldiers’ Lawyer

What is a Military Termination Clause, and why would I want one in my Lease Agreement?

If you are planning to rent a home or apartment off post you should consider the necessity of having a military termination clause in your lease. Military termination clauses provide service members with an option to terminate their lease early under certain circumstances. Those circumstances may include the following situations: orders for a Permanent Change of Station; orders to move into government quarters; orders to deploy or TCS; and retirement or separation from active duty. Without such a clause, you could be legally obligated to continue paying rent for the remainder of your lease term even after you have moved out. For this reason, it is in your best interest to have a mechanism for terminating the lease early. The termination clause should clearly specify the circumstances necessary to terminate the lease.

(Editor’s note: The Soldiers’ Lawyer is provided by the Fort Huachuca Judge Advocate General Legal Assistance Office. Visit us on the web at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil/usag/sja/legalassistance/> or contact us at 533-2009 for an appointment. Legal advice may not be given over the phone.)

Have we got news for you!

Read it online, click on huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

Lifelong Learning

Cisco certification program offered at UofP

UofP release
TUCSON, Ariz. — Preparatory classes for the Cisco Certified Network Associate Certification are now being offered by the University of Phoenix at the River Road campus in Tucson.

The four classes being offered are Cisco Networking Essentials, Cisco Network Router Technologies, Advance Cisco Routing and Switching, and Cisco Wide Area Networking. The classes will prepare professionals to take Cisco exam 640-507 CCNA.

“The CCNA certification indicates a foundation in and apprentice knowledge of networking. Professionals will be able to install, configure and operate LAN, WAN and dial access services for small networks of 100 nodes or fewer,” said Chris Rima, technology programs administrator for University of Phoenix’s Southern Arizona Campuses.

Rima also stated that, “Cisco certification validates an individual’s achievement, so it increases the holder’s professional credibility by ensuring high standards of technical expertise.”

For information on this program, contact a technology enrollment counselor at (520) 881-6512.

The largest private, accredited university in the country, University of Phoenix serves over 3,000 working adult students from campus locations throughout southern Arizona. The university has almost 96,000 students attending campuses in 20 states, one quarter of whom attend online from around the world.



Photo by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

Comic relief

Sgt. 1st Class Mark Baker, Company A, 306th Military Intelligence Battalion, creator of the award winning Pvt. Murphy cartoons sign autographed copies of his books “Pvt. Murphy’s Law” and “Pv-2 Murphy — The adventure continues” at the Military Clothing Sales Store Oct. 15. There was also a drawing held for the original Pvt. Murphy T-shirt and poster.

Commentary

By Dr. David F. Russell
The American Legion

On Veterans Day, we do well to reflect on the war that has been set before us and on those who serve.

What follows is a story from a dear friend. His son is a soldier, who has been deployed in the war on terrorism. The words are especially poignant, because they speak for thousands of mothers and fathers and husbands and wives who are today anxiously waiting for word from their loved ones:

“It both ends and begins with a phone call.

““Hey Dad...Just got the word that we’re moving out, pronto. Like we talked before, it’ll be a while before I can call again. I love you. Don’t worry about me. Put Mom on for a sec, will you?”

“It’s the end of the waiting for military orders. The end of hope that they don’t come. The end of uncertainty about deployment. He’s going.

“The end is bad, but the beginning is worse. It’s the beginning of long months of silence. Long nights of worry. Watch the news. Search the Internet. Wait for the phone to ring...but is doesn’t.

“He might be in Turkmenistan, or Uzbekistan, or a dozen other countries I didn’t know existed before Sept. 11. I knew it

might happen. After all, this is what he was trained for. He’s a soldier. I know he’s proud to do his duty. And I’m proud of him

“I hug my wife and tell her he’s going to be okay, but we need something more to cling to. ‘Lord, give him strength. Lord protect him.’ Still, I have to focus. I have to keep on living, despite the hollow numbness in the pit of my stomach.

“My boy’s gone to war.

“I’ve been there — but I’ve never been here. I’ve been the one to go to war, but not the one left behind...to wait...to worry...to wonder. I didn’t want this for him.

“Only yesterday he was a little kid pleading for me to go outside and play ball. Today he’s a man doing his duty, defending his nation.

“He’s special to me, but really no different from thousands of others. Your sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters, friends and neighbors — they’re all doing their duty, leaving their homes, leaving their families to fight an enemy who wears no uniform, swears allegiance to no country and recognizes no rules of war.

“America’s troops may be gone for weeks, even months or years. Some may never come home, yet all will be with their ‘family.’

“Not blood relatives — not mom and dad — but with other

A father’s concern

young men and women with whom they serve in the military uniform of our country. Come what may, none will fail those with whom they serve.

“They are today’s ‘Private Ryans’ and ‘Band of Brothers.’ Their platoons and air wings and ship’s companies are their families, their brothers and sisters.

“Each had pledged his life and entrusted his safety to the other. All have forged a sacred bond that will last a lifetime, a bond none can understand; except those who share it.

“We are praying as a family, because, in a very real sense, ever soldier, sailor, Marine, airman and Coast Guardsman is a part of our family, The American Legion family, and we love them all and we’re proud of them.

“No words are sufficient to describe our national sense of resolve or our collective feeling of concern for those young ones who have gone into harm’s way on our behalf. Instead let us pray to the God of us all that we gain victory and rejoice in the safe return of our family.

“Nonetheless, let us also pray that His will be done, and that He give us the strength to bear it — be it sorrow or rejoicing.

“God has blessed America with much bounty and many fine men and women through the years who have risked their lives — and given them — to preserve our liberty and our way of life.

“So today let this be our prayer, as in ages past, “God bless America.”

(Editor’s note: Dr. David F. Russell of Spotsylvania, Va. is national chaplain of the 2.8 million-member American Legion, the nation’s largest veterans organization.)

Have we got news for you!

Don’t miss these upcoming stories in The Fort Huachuca Scout newspaper:

Halloween’s history revealed; The walls have ears; and New family member SGLI means pay deduction.

The Fort Huachuca Scout®

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Community renders respect during memorial

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

The Buena High School football stadium was a sea of military uniforms and American flags as the Fort Huachuca community and the citizens of Sierra Vista came together Oct. 13, during a memorial ceremony held to render honor and pay respect to the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

“This is a time of utter dependence upon God,” said Thomas J. Hessler, mayor of Sierra Vista.

“This is a time to come together to honor the dead and to inspire the living,” said Jim Chambers, deputy commander, U.S. Army Garrison.

Brig. Gen. James. A. Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, urged audience members to take time to find out why their neighbors came to the ceremony.

“I’m here tonight in order to remember, to be inspired, and to walk away with my back a little more stiffer and my resolve strengthened for what will hopefully be more years to come of military service. I also want to thank each and every one of you for what you do each and every day,” Marks said.

Chaplain (Col.) Juan T. Loya, installation staff chaplain, gave the pastoral meditation and began by quoting from the Bible. “On Sept. 11, the world we once knew forever changed, but the book of Isaiah says, ‘Those who wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not be faint.’

“During times like these we look to God almighty for clarity and for direction. At times like these we also look to the word of God because it offers faith, hope and comfort,” Loya said.

Loya recounted a story about a caller who reminded television talk show host Diane Sawyer why America’s founding fathers chose the eagle to represent the nation. The caller said the eagle was chosen because of its ability to rise above the storms.

“With faith in God, we too will rise above the storms,” he said. He continued by assuring the crowd that faith in God will enable the nation not to live in fear.

The ceremony was also marked by prayers from mem-



Photo by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

The Buena High School football stadium was a sea of military uniforms and American flags as the Fort Huachuca community and the citizens of Sierra Vista came together Oct. 13, during a memorial ceremony held to render honor and pay respect to the victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

bers of three different faiths. Sgt. 1st Class Mark Stephens, Company B, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, led the Jewish prayer and reflection; and Lou Broitman, a Jewish lay, leader gave the Mourner’s Kaddish. Staff Sgt. Marc Hill, Company B, 304th MI Bn., Fort Huachuca’s Muslim lay leader, read the Muslim prayer and reflection. Both Stephens and Hill urged patience. The Rev. Shawn Buckhanan, pastor of St. Paul’s Missionary Baptist church, gave the Christian prayer

and reflection.

Special music was performed by Fort Huachuca’s Kino Gospel Choir and the Sierra Vista Community Chorus. After the conclusion of the memorial ceremony the 36th Army Band gave a concert and performed several patriotic songs.

“The greatest distinction that I have at this very moment is that I’m a U.S. citizen,” Marks said at the conclusion of the ceremony.

CFC kicks off with luncheon at Lakeside

By Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart
Scout Staff

Service members and civilians attended the Combined Federal Campaign Kickoff Luncheon Oct. 12 at the Fort Huachuca Lakeside Activity Center. This year’s CFC theme is Change Tomorrow Today.

The keynote speaker was Charles J. Fisher, executive director, Catholic Community Services, Southeastern Arizona.

“I’m very honored to be standing in front of America’s finest,” Fisher said. “Our hats go off to you for what you have endured this past month. We support your efforts of justice and our sympathy goes out to your brothers and sisters at the Pentagon.”

Fisher also serves on the board of directors for Sierra Vista.

He related how he left a conference he was attending in New York City, Sept. 10, on an early flight and marveled at the beauty at the New York City skyline.

“Who would have thought, that not more than 24 hours later, I would be one of the last people to see the World Trade Center intact,” he said in reference to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Fisher went on to note how the CFC campaign touches the lives of thousands of Americans.



Photo by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

Charles J. Fisher, executive director, Catholic Community Services, Southeastern Arizona, spoke to soldiers and civilians at the Combined Federal Campaign kickoff luncheon, Oct. 12, about the impact CFC can make in the lives of Americans. CFC donations can also be designated for the terrorist attack relief efforts.

“Thank you for your generosity, and thank you for your service. God bless you, and God bless the United States,” Fisher concluded.

Brig. Gen. James A. Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, urged audience members to tell at least three people about the 2001 CFC campaign.

White Sands CG visits EPG on farewell tour

EPG release

Brig. Gen. Steven W. Flohr, Commanding General, U.S. Army White Sands Missile Range made his final visit to Fort Huachuca and the Electronic Proving Ground on Oct. 9-10.

After almost two years of commanding “America’s Range” in New Mexico, with EPG as one of his subordinate commands, he will relinquish command to Brig. Gen. William F. Engel at a change of command ceremony on Monday.



Brig. Gen. Steven W. Flohr

During this end-of-tour visit with EPG, Flohr received briefings on the recently completed Field Test 4, a major integrated developmental test conducted across Fort Huachuca’s East and West Ranges of the latest Army digitized C4I systems. He reviewed EPG’s Force Protection posture, had updates on other critical C4I tests in progress or projected and completed his visit with a WSMR Command Update briefing to the EPG workforce.

In addition, Flohr was introduced to the Tombstone Vigilantes at a dinner party held at the Silver Nugget in Tombstone, Ariz. Col. Hugo Keyner, commander of EPG, along with Team EPG’s leadership and their spouses, bid Flohr a fond farewell.

Gen. Robert J. Courter Jr., “we’re also involved with many promotions and programs that have a positive impact on our military families and community.”

“This is the third year commissaries have been associated with the letter-writing effort,” said Kaye Kennedy, DeCA acting chief of Corporate Communications. “It’s always been well received by commissary shoppers, but this year it has a special meaning as Americans look for ways to express unity and support for our military.”

“During the past two years, thousands of American men and women serving overseas found out how much they are appreciated back

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226th Navy Birthday Ball honors POWs, MIAs

By Spc. Jessica Espinosa
Scout Staff

Since the age of 10, Norman Wiseman always wanted to fly. Years later in the U.S. Air Force, during World War II, his dream came true.

Wiseman flew B-24s as a flight engineer and winner in the top turret positions. He flew 32 and a half missions over Germany, Austria, Romania, Hungary, Italy, France and Bulgaria. During his 33 flight, when he made it only half way through, his aircraft was shot down over Lenz, Austria. Wiseman made it out alive, but he then spent nine months as a prisoner of war.

The now retired Master Sgt. Norman Wiseman was the guest speaker during the 226th celebration of the United States Navy Birthday Ball at the Windemere Hotel Oct. 13, in remembrance of prisoners of war and those missing in action.

During an emotional speech, Wiseman told the sailors and their guests that he hoped no one would have to go through what he went through.

He detailed the harsh living arrangements with minuscule food and water, but he said for him survival was in the mind.

“It was February 6, 1945 and the Russians were getting close to our camp. The Germans kept us hostage and marched us 650 miles in 86 days,” Wiseman said. “What is the longest you have gone without changing clothes or taking a shower? Stop and think about it. We were on the black march for 86 days. The first leg was 33 days. We did not have an opportunity to take a bath and the only time I had my clothes off was when I shook the lice out. What we got to eat depended on how good you were at procuring food.”

What ever was found along the march was fair game to the soldiers, Wiseman said.

“Our camp had four compounds with approximately 8,000 American airmen, with 2,000 in each compound. Our food consisted of potatoes, carrots, kohlrabi, seaweed soup, some barley, and black bread that was 27 percent sawdust and made in 1942. The year was 1945. We received a food parcel of approximately eight pounds to be divided between two to four men about every two weeks,” he said.

At this time Wiseman was 5’3” and weighed only 120 pounds. Thankfully, the British later liberated the POWs, Wiseman said.

“When I left the U.S. to go overseas by boat, (ship to you,) we sailed past the Statue of Liberty. At that time I thought ‘I’ll see you again some day.’ Many times on a mission and on the black march I wondered if I would see her again. As we sailed into New York and past the lady again there wasn’t a dry eye onboard,” Wiseman said.

“When one has everything taken away except his life and the clothes on his back, the things he misses most are not lavish dinners,



Retired Master Sgt. Norman Wiseman

expensive cars or fancy clothes, but the simple every day things we take for granted — bread and butter, clean clothes, warm baths, a nice bed to sleep in, and friends. But most of all his freedom.”

Wiseman said for those who survived, they had three things going for them. “Our faith in god and country, and a will to live. We became survivors.”

After the war Wiseman went back to his childhood dream of flying and flew 100 trips on the Berlin Air Lift, which was a humanitarian aid that was provided for West Berlin. When Wiseman made it back to the U.S., he was assigned to a research and development group where he tested all new aircraft models being introduced, including cold weather testing in Alaska.

After retiring from the Air Force Wiseman worked for the Boy Scouts for 17 years. After retiring from the Boy Scouts he worked in a machine shop as the maintenance man on all types of equipment. He is now fully retired to his ranch in Palominas, Ariz., where he enjoys his horses and working in his own shop.

Wiseman’s decorations include: the Purple Heart, Air Medal (three bronze clusters and one silver cluster), Army Commendation Medal, POW, Europe Africa Middle East, Occupation Germany, Humane Action Berlin Airlift, Humanitarian Service Medal, Unit Citation (one oak leaf cluster), and the American World War II Victory Medal.

During the Navy Ball a traditional Two Bell Ceremony was giving in remembrance to those departed shipmates who have given their lives in service to their country at sea, as well as a reminder of the awesome responsibilities and special confidences entrusted to the current generation of defenders.

As the U.S. Navy celebrated its 226th birthday they also celebrated true American heroes.

B Troop takes first place in Nevada parade

By Christopher Zimmerman
B Troop

B Troop, 4th U.S. Cavalry (Memorial) brought honor to Fort Huachuca by winning first place in the equestrian category during the Harvest Day Festival parade in Pahrump, Nev. on Oct. 6.

B Troop Commander, Maj. Robert Blanchette, had just finished drilling the troop in preparation for the parade when the parade's Grand Marshall surprised him with a presentation of the blue ribbon for winning first place.

The award was affixed to Blanchette's horse, Hightower, who bore it proudly down the main street of the desert city.

The Troop and their mounts made the grueling 12-hour trip from Fort Huachuca to Pahrump.

Stable call for the troopers began at 5 a.m., Oct. 5, a short while before the first rays of sunlight had appeared above the Mule Mountains. Troop First Sergeant, Pete Criscuolo ensured the preparation and loading of the horses into the trailer went quickly and that B Troop was on the trail by 6 a.m.

The women of the Ladies Auxiliary accompanied the troopers on the trip.

A half-day later the tired troopers and ladies arrived safely in Pahrump.

The parade drew a large crowd. Blanchette led the column through many complex parade maneuvers along the route, much to the delight of the observers who applauded vigorously at the impressive display of horsemanship.

The people of Pahrump provided the troopers and ladies with food and VIP seats at the rodeo.

After returning home Sunday night, the troopers were warmly greeted at the stables by their family members and the troopers who had to stay behind.

Blanchette claimed afterward that the trip was a great success and that in his experience the Troop had never performed as well during a parade — a performance verified by a new blue ribbon in the Troop headquarters.

B Troop's next major public appearance will



Photos by Gloria Dueltgen

(Above) B Troop Commander, Maj. Robert Blanchette led the column through many complex parade maneuvers along the route in Pahlump, Nev., much to the delight of the observers who applauded vigorously at the impressive display of horsemanship.

(At right) B Troop, 4th U.S. Cavalry (Memorial) and the Ladies Auxiliary in Pahlump, Nev.



be in Tombstone for Helldorado days, Saturday and Sunday. The B Troop schedule is online at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/btroop/btroop.htm>.

AMC continues official, Space-A passenger flights

By Cynthia Bauer
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — Air Mobility Command is still operating passenger flights for military and other eligible travelers.

There are fewer flights and a few changes that passengers need to remember when they are planning to use military aircraft or contract aircraft for either official or Space-Available travel.

“AMC-operated missions are now under tighter security restrictions because of the recent terrorist attacks,” said Cindy Rothenbach, a traffic management specialist with the Passenger Policy Branch at AMC. “Because of the need for heightened security at our passenger terminals, we now have enhanced passenger processing measures.”

Under the new procedures, all passengers must present two forms of identification when checking in for a flight. One of those IDs must have a passenger photo. Any sharp-edged objects, regardless of length must be placed in checked baggage where it will be inaccessible to the passenger.

“All hand-carried items are subject to 100 percent inspection,” said Rothenbach. Checked bags will also be randomly inspected for all AMC missions.

Rothenbach said that passengers may experience a slowdown in processing and recommends official and Space-A passengers call the appropriate AMC terminal for flight status. Travelers may need to show up at passenger terminals up to three hours prior to take-off.

“Passengers leaving on Space-A flights from military terminals should also be aware of current force protection conditions, which may cause delays in accessing military installations,” she said.

Rothenbach said that there have been no reductions on Patriot Express flights to the Atlantic or Pacific Theater from AMC gateways at commercial terminals. But travelers need to understand there are additional precautions at those airports, and they should plan their arrival time accordingly.

A consideration for Space-A travelers is that for the foreseeable future, there will be fewer flights and fewer seats available.

“Since AMC-owned aircraft are being called into service to support higher-priority missions, Space-A seating may be harder to get,” Rothenbach said. “But Space-A is still available, and travelers should check with the nearest passenger terminal for the latest information.”

Web site lets soldiers ASK for assignment options

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — A new Web-based program now gives enlisted soldiers a say in choosing their next duty assignment.

The Assignment Satisfaction Key, or ASK, Internet tool will provide soldiers, for the first time, the capability to post assignment preference information directly onto the Total Army Personnel Database. ASK went active Oct. 12 at <http://www.perscom.army.mil>.

Assignment preferences are no longer “Dream Sheets” as they used to be called, said Col. Jeffrey Redmann, deputy director of Enlisted Personnel Management. Under the old “Dream Sheet” days, soldiers could choose from 230 continental United States locations and 280 overseas locations, he said.

“In reality, soldiers had little chance of being assigned to many of these locations,” Redmann said.

ASK will require soldiers to select three CONUS locations and three other preferences outside of the continental United States.

Preference locations mean that if a soldier has to rotate or do a special duty like drill sergeant or recruiter, this is the place or the duty he would prefer, said Master Sgt. Thomas Gills, a branch manager at Total Army Personnel Command. The first two preference choices will be from the Army's 10 divisions, because that's where soldiers are needed most, Gills said. The other choice will be from Table and Distribution of Allowance, or TDA installations.

Soldiers are also required to select three CONUS and three OCONUS volunteer locations from a list of TDA installations. Volunteer locations mean that if a soldier has to change duty stations now, this is where he would want to go, Gills said.

“By providing soldiers with realistic location options, we should be able to match Army readiness requirements with the soldier's preferences ... which will be a win for both the Army and the soldier,” Redmann said. “Soldiers are contributing to the overall decision process and their vote will count.”

Soldiers who don't submit preferences will be sent to duty stations based on the needs of the Army, Gills said. Soldiers also have to understand that they will not always be put in a position because they want to go there and it's open, Gills said.

“There's a saying that what's best for you is not always going to be the most comfortable for you,” Gills said. “When a soldier submits his preferences, a branch manager will look to see if the soldier meets the requirements, and also look into the soldier's assignment history.

“We are professional development NCOs, and our job is to find assignments that will help soldiers progress in their military career.”

ASK is available to soldiers through PERSCOM's Web site at <http://www.perscom.army.mil>. Soldiers will need to use their Army Knowledge Online account password to gain access to their information. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric Shinseki directed that all soldiers get an AKO account by Oct. 1.

The completion of the new Web application culminates a five-year project, titled Operation Engage, to improve communications between enlisted managers and soldiers, PERSCOM officials said.

Other Operation Engage initiatives include putting fax machines in all enlisted career branches for expeditious processing. Soldiers will be able to easily identify their branch managers by a unique e-mail address. Also, there are pocket cards for soldiers with career branch phone numbers, e-mail addresses and fax numbers. About 550,000 pocket cards have been distributed.

Direct mailings are also being sent to enlisted soldiers to notify them of assignments and other career management information. Almost 5,000 PERSCOM telegrams are sent to soldiers each week. Another initiative is the interactive voice response system, which is an interactive telephone system that provides enlisted soldiers with automated assignment, school, and retention information 24 hours a day. The IVRS telephone number is 1-800-FYI-EPMD.

Soldiers may select their assignment preference and assignment volunteer locations from the following listings:

Soldiers must select two CONUS assignment preference locations from this listing:

- Fort Bragg, N.C.
- Fort Lewis, Wash.
- Fort Campbell, Ky.
- Fort Polk, La.
- Fort Carson, Colo.
- Fort Riley, Kan.
- Fort Drum, N.Y.
- Fort Stewart, Ga.
- Fort Hood, Texas

Soldiers must select one CONUS assignment preference location and up to three CONUS assignment volunteer locations from this listing:

- Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.
- Fort Leavenworth, Kan.
- Fort Belvoir, Va.
- Fort Lee, Va.
- Fort Benning, Ga.
- Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.
- Fort Bliss, Texas
- Fort Lewis, Wash.
- Fort Bragg, N.C.
- Fort Meade, Md.
- Fort Campbell, Ky.
- Fort McClellan, Ala.
- Fort Carson, Colo.
- Fort McPherson, Ga.
- Fort Drum, N.Y.
- Fort Monroe, Va.
- Fort Eustis, Va.
- Fort Polk, La.
- Fort Gordon, Ga.
- Redstone Arsenal, Ala.
- Fort Hood, Texas
- Fort Riley, Kan.
- Fort Huachuca, Ariz.
- Fort Rucker, Ala.
- Fort Irwin, Calif.
- Fort Sam Houston, Texas
- Fort Jackson, S.C.
- Fort Sill, Okla.
- Fort Knox, Ky.
- Fort Stewart, Ga.

OCONUS Listing — Soldiers must select three OCONUS assignment preferences locations and up to three OCONUS assignment volunteer locations.

- Alaska
- Hawaii
- Germany
- Korea

(Editor's note: Information taken from a PERSCOM press release.)

Have we got news for you!
Read it online.
Visit huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/PAO

Understanding Islam: scholars demystify religion

By Adriane Foss
Army News Service

Dr. Dave Damrel teaches world religion, specializing in Islamic civilizations and religious traditions, at Arizona State University. He is one of many scholars, politicians and religious experts who are desperate to get one point across after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the U.S.:

Islamic terrorism is a contradiction in terms. Despite the fact that 7 million of the 1 billion world-wide followers of Islam live in the United States — and most are not of Middle Eastern origin — the U.S. public continues to associate the Islamic faith and Muslims (followers of the faith) with terrorism, said Damrel.

“It’s because when people think of Islam, they have all these automatic stereotypes of Muslims dressed a certain way, of the dessert, of camels, and all these outdated stereotypes,” Damrel said in a telephone interview.

But, he said, Muslims are as varied as the countries they inhabit, pointing out that the vast majority of believers live in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

“To be a Muslim is a religious choice, just like Christians come in every conceivable background,” Damrel said. “One of my Muslim students said that when you hear news about the violence in Northern Ireland, you never hear them mentioned as Roman Catholic (or Protestant) terrorists. They talk about the Irish and the British fighting. This is no different.”

According to Amir Hussain, a Muslim and professor of religious studies at California State University Northridge, about one-third of the Muslims in the United States are Middle Eastern, one-third African-American, and one-third South Asian.

Islam is one of the fastest growing religions in the world, he said, ranking second behind Christianity. Its 1.2 billion followers make up a quarter of the world’s population, and American Muslims now outnumber the nation’s Episcopalians.

The word “Islam” gets its meaning from the Arabic word for submission to God, peace, and purity. Closely related to Judaism and Christianity, it is a monotheistic faith.

“It’s seen as having a kind of family relationship with both religions, meaning that all three share critical religious figures, as well as ideas and world views,” said Damrel.

Islam shares the God of the Christian and Hebrew bibles, and all three faiths recognize prophetic figures Abraham, Noah, Issac, David, Jacob, and Jesus, among others.

Muslims believe that Allah-the Arabic word for God-revealed his message to a 7th century merchant named Muhammad, who is said to have received these revelations through the messenger angel Gabriel and recorded them into the Qu’ran (Muslim bible). These sacred scriptures are considered to be the unedited and literal word of Allah.

Devoutly religious, Muslims are encouraged to pray five times a day in order to maintain a continual and humble relationship with Allah. All Muslims recognize the Five Pillars or requirements of their faith:

Shahadah

The declaration that there is no other God besides Allah and Muhammad is his prophet.

Salah

Praying five times a day while facing Mecca, Islam’s holiest city because that is where Allah and his word were revealed to Muhammad.

Sawm

Fasting during the ninth month of the lunar calendar.

Zakat

Taking care of the poor and less fortunate. Many of those who are able are asked to give two and a half percent of their income to charity.

Haji

Making a pilgrimage to Mecca at least once time in a lifetime, if finances allow.

Islam considers murder to be a grievous sin. Experts say the Qu’ran is quite clear on that fact. One scripture notes that a person taking another person’s life is the same as taking the life of mankind, and a person who saves the life of one person is the same as saving the life of mankind.

Even the murder of enemy soldiers is considered sinful if not committed in self-defense, and “for some Muslims, those who commit suicide are no longer considered a Muslim,” said Damrel.

For that reason, many followers of Islam insist that the suicide bombers who carried out the Sept. 11 attacks are not true Muslims.

“Muslims prize human life, and strive to live in a fair and just society,” said Damrel. He also noted that all of the major Muslim organizations in the U.S. and Europe voiced strong and immediate condemnation of the perpetrators in the Sept. 11 attacks.



Mehmet Biber/Photo Researchers, Inc.

The al-Haram Mosque in Mecca, Saudi Arabia, holds the holiest shrine of Islam, the Kaaba. As the birthplace of Islam’s founder, the Prophet Muhammad, Mecca is considered a holy city. It is a pilgrimage point for Muslims worldwide, who are expected to visit the city at least once if they are able to do so.

Rather than think of the terrorist attacks in religious or ethnic terms, Damrel said it should be considered a political struggle in which “one side is using some of the symbols and language of Islam for political purposes, but not really expressing the truth of Islam.

“But it’s important to remind everybody how much of a minority position that is. These groups are about as representative of Islam as the KKK is representative of Christians.”

Damrel said Osama bin Laden — a Saudi-born Islamic radical and No. 1 suspect for planning the attacks against America — doesn’t represent the formal Muslim faith.

“Basically, Islam is a religion that has many of the same values as conservative Christianity,” said ASU professor Dr. Mark Woodard, who has lived and traveled throughout several Muslim nations.

“It places a great deal of emphasis on personal piety and personal and public morality. You’re not supposed to drink and other things like that. Basic Muslim values would go over real well with Southern Baptists.”

Despite the similarities, Woodward said within two weeks of the bombings, a prejudicial backlash against Arab-looking persons has caused many of his students to pack up and return to their homes overseas. Most were urged home by parents who feared for the students’ lives.

“Particularly after the report about the fellow who was shot in Phoenix,” said Woodward, referring to an Indian gas station attendant who fell victim to ethnic stereotyping after the attacks.

“He was not an Arab. He was not even Muslim,” said Woodward, “but Indians wear the (traditional clothing) and turbans.”

He explained that the cause behind recent terrorist activity dates back to the 1950s.

“They have defined the governments of almost all Arab states as non-believers, as non-Muslims, because of their affiliation with either Western or Soviet powers and therefore, they say that it is the duty of Muslims to struggle against these Arab governments and the foreign powers that support them,” he said.

This struggle is known as a “jihad”, which literally means struggling or striving. Commonly called a holy war, a more accurate term would be holy struggle, said Woodward.

In the more common religious sense, a jihad is described by the Qu’ran and Muhammad’s teachings as the internal struggle to be a good Muslim.

“This is the greater jihad, which is a spiritual struggle against our own imperfection,” said Woodward, “and it’s almost mystical in nature.”

The lesser jihad is the religious duty of the Muslim community to defend itself when attacked. The Qu’ran teaches that the defense of God and religion is a supreme task, but when a jihad is declared to protect the faith against others, it may be carried out using economic, political, diplomatic, or legal means. When no peaceful resolution can be found, it may take the form of a military campaign.

Even then, scholars agree that there are strict rules of engagement. Because Allah is sovereign over all things, state affairs also fall under religious law. Therefore, a jihad can only be declared by a religious cleric, or scholar, said Damrel.

“For example, during the Gulf War, Saddam Hussein tried to

motivate a jihad, but no one took him very seriously because they know he’s not a religious scholar,” said Damrel.

In the case of the Al Qaeda, a terrorist organization led by bin Laden, very precise reasoning is used to defend its terrorist activities in the name of Islam.

“This is the scary part, because it means the people who do these things genuinely accept this as their religious duty,” he said.

Woodward, after reading some of bin Laden’s writings, explained his rationale this way:

“Because the people of the U.S. knew about a whole series of atrocities, including the Gulf War, our support of Israel during the 1967 war in Palestine, and outrageous horror stories and lies about American soldiers barbecuing and eating Somalian children.

“He says because we knew about and chose to do these things, we are all combatants. And therefore it’s okay to kill us. There are no innocents in the U.S.”

Those are not the thoughts of a madman, said Woodward.

“This is very important, because in the general sense, it’s very clear,” he said. “The killing of innocents is forbidden. This is not a crazy person like mad bomber Ted Kazinsky. This is a carefully constructed philosophy, strongly associated with the American presence in Saudi Arabia,” where approximately 5,000 American troops have remained since the end of the Gulf War.

Many of bin Laden’s Anti-American sentiments were fueled after he returned to his Saudi Arabian homeland in 1991 following his efforts against the Russians in Afghanistan.

U.S. troops had been sent to the region to help liberate Kuwait from Iraq. When Iraq initially invaded Kuwait, bin Laden informed the royal family that he and the mujahedin, a group of Arab rebels, were capable of defending the kingdom. Instead, the government sought U.S. military protection and invited into its border thousands of American soldiers.

Bin Laden has also attributed the country’s alleged failing economy to the Western forces.

Since then he has been exiled to Afghanistan, where he is believed to fund terrorist training camps and oversee dozens of terrorist groups throughout the world. He continues to live in Afghanistan under the protection of the extremist Taliban government, which took control of the country during a military coup.

“I’m very certain that there is a large number of Muslims serving in the American military,” said Woodward, “and they’re going to be there fighting, shoulder to shoulder, with everybody else.

“The thing for everyone to remember is that bin Laden’s view is one that less than one-tenth of one percent of the world’s Muslims share.”

Woodward said he has received legal writings via e-mail signed by 75 Muslim scholars, some of those who are strongly opposed to U.S. foreign policy. Yet all denounced the recent attacks.

He said a note from former Indonesian president Abdurahman Wahidk read: “Bin Laden is not doing anything that he has not done before, but I can’t understand why he has associated it with Islam.”

(Editor’s note: Adriane Foss is the associate editor of the Fort Knox “Inside the Turret” newspaper.)

AAFES reminds credit card holders of deployment policy

AAFES release

As a reminder to all those service members who may be deploying in the near future, the Army and Air Force Exchange Service has an established deployment policy for its deployed credit card account holders.

According to Dave Nelson, Fort Huachuca AAFES general manager, the plan offers Military Star card (formerly DPP) deployed account holders a reduced interest rate and no payments for those who are deployed for at least 90 days in conjunction with a JCS deployment order.

Nelson said the plan provides the Military star card deployed account holders

whose account is in good standing (i.e., not in “collection” status) two options:

— A 6 percent interest rate and the ability to continue to utilize the account during the deployment period while making no payments, or

— A 0 percent interest rate during the deployment period, while making no payments. No charges can be made against the account during the period of deployment under this option.

To take advantage of AAFES’ Star card contingency deployment policy, Unit Commanders (or their representatives) must first provide AAFES a deployment listing by one

of the following methods:

By mail:

AAFES-HQ
P.O. Box 650739
Dallas, TX 75265-0739

By fax:

DSN: 967-4326
COM: 214-312-4326

By e-mail:

Send deployment listing to deployment@aafes.com.
Upon confirmation of deployment status

of service members, AAFES will automatically default to Option one (6 percent interest rate with no payments and full charge privileges during the deployment period).

If the service member chooses Option two (0 percent interest with no payments and no charge privileges during deployment period), the service member must notify AAFES through one of the methods detailed above.

For additional information, service members can contact the Fort Huachuca Army, Air Force Exchange Service general manager’s office at 458-7210.

Community Updates

Air Force retirement ceremony

The public is invited to a retirement ceremony for Tech. Sgt. Gitone Ross at 1 p.m. today outside the 314th Training Squadron front office. There will be a reception at 2 p.m. at the Lakeside Activity Center in the lower area. Please join us in wishing her a fond farewell from the United States Air Force and for serving her country proudly for 21 years.

Learning Styles seminar set

Everyone is invited to this training seminar where the basic styles of learning will be taught. Learn what your learning style is, your spouse's, your child's, your coworker's, your student's, or your friend's. Educating yourself in these different styles of learning will enhance your skill in dealing with others. The seminar will be held Saturday, 8:30 a.m.-noon at the Main Post Chapel activities room and is free of charge. Child care is provided for ID card holders of children ages six months thru five years. For more information, or to register, call Donna Irsik at 459-4877.

Arizona Teachers' Forum set

The third annual Arizona Teachers' Forum will be held Friday at the Wells Fargo Center in downtown Phoenix. The forum will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is free to Arizona Teachers.

The purpose of the Forum is to bring Arizona Teachers together with public officials to discuss issues affecting education such as student needs, improving teaching and learning conditions, high stakes testing, recruitment and retention of quality teachers, incentive pay, and professional development for teachers.

For more information or to register to attend the conference, call Julie Kley at 928-774-2909.

Intel symposium set

AFCEA International will host its annual Fall Intelligence Symposium Oct. 24-25 at the Defense Intelligence Analysis Center, on Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C. This year's theme is "Intelligence and National Strategy."

For more information on this professional development event, including a detailed agenda, a listing of all confirmed speakers, fees, directions, general information, and secure on-line registration, visit www.afcea.org/fallintel2001/default.asp.

If you have questions about attending, or about an exhibit call Terry Rogers at 800-336-4583, ext. 6238 or e-mail trogers@afcea.org. Attendees must be U.S. citizens and have a top-secret clearance with SI/TK access.

DOIM computer classes

The Directorate of Information Management has resumed its monthly computer classes.

The following courses are scheduled for the remainder of October: Intermediate Access

SGLI from Page 1

dren have been covered under the military life insurance program.

"The spouse must be enrolled in DEERS (Defense Eligibility and Enrollment Reporting System) in order for the correct premium to be deducted from the sponsor's paycheck," Wagner added.

Spouses who opt to accept the automatic life insurance policies do not have to undergo physical examinations, Wagner said.

He said the spouses would, however, have to complete a document stating that they are in "good health" if they elect insurance after initially declining or decreasing the automatic coverage.

"This is one of the best deals on the market," Wagner said.

The policies are also "convertible," which allows the insured spouse to convert their policies to a commercial insurance plan once the sponsor separates or retires, Wagner said.

"We are still developing the details of the program, but it is important for soldiers to be thinking about whether they want or need the

2000, today; Advanced Access 2000, Friday; Practical PC, Monday, Outlook 2000, Wednesday; Introduction to the Internet, part one , Oct. 25; and Introduction to the Internet part two, Oct. 26.

All classes start promptly at 9 a.m. in De Rosy Cabell Hall, Building 22324 on Christy Avenue. Classes are limited to 14 students. It is mandatory to sign up for a class prior to attending.

Signal stress program

Due to recent events, families have been under a lot of stress. Sometimes, adults do not realize how events and circumstances can affect children. Team 40th Family Readiness Group invites Team 40th and Bright Star soldiers and family members to an Army Community Service/Family Advocacy program on Helping Children Cope With Stress. The program will be 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Oct. 26 and 5:30-7:30 p.m., Nov. 1 at Kino Chapel's Activities Room. Bring a covered dish or dessert to share. For information, call Kim Powell at 459-4645 or Virginia Heaney at 803-6739.

Adopt a greyhound

The Greyhound Adoption League of Sierra Vista will host a Greyhound Adoption Day on Oct. 27 for Sierra Vista and the surrounding area. The adoption day will be 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Bookman's Bookstore, 100 West Fry Blvd., Sierra Vista. The program is also in need of temporary homes for these beautiful dogs. For more information, call Dave Breen at 378-1763.

Museum Society meets

The fall meeting of the Huachuca Museum Society will be at 3 p.m., Oct. 28 in the Ballroom at the Fort Huachuca LakeSide Activity Centre. This program is free to members and \$5 for guests. For reservations, call 378-3615.

Steve Lindsey will talk about ranching in the Southwest. Lindsey's family has been in the cattle business in southeastern Arizona since the late 1860s. He writes cowboy poetry and frequently performs at the annual Cochise Cowboy Poetry & Music Gatherings.

Blue Cross rep visits

A representative from Blue Cross, Blue Shield will be at Fort Huachuca on Nov. 1 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Gila Room at Murr Community Center to answer questions on benefits, claims or enrollment. For more information, call CPAC at 533-5273/5735.

Giving Tree volunteers needed

The Giving Tree is a chapel based program that provides holiday gifts and clothes to needy military children. Volunteers are needed to sign out ornaments that list the child's toy and clothing request to Santa's helpers. Volunteers are also needed to man the Giving Tree that will be located at the Main Post Exchange from Nov. 1 - Dec. 5, from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. daily. Volun-

teers to portray Santa will also be needed on a daily basis from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. For more information, call 458-7664.

ters to portray Santa will also be needed on a daily basis from 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. For more information, call 458-7664.

Delta operators sought

A 1st Special Forces Operational Detachment-DELTA (Airborne) Briefing Team from Fort Bragg, N.C., will discuss qualifications and application procedures to military personnel interested in becoming DELTA Operators.

Specific units have been provided with an alphabetical roster that identifies mandatory attendance for those listed soldiers. Unit first sergeants should coordinate to have their soldiers attend one of the noncommissioned officer professional development briefings. This briefing however is open to anyone who wishes to attend.

Briefings will be at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily Nov. 5-7 in the Buffalo Ballroom at Murr Community Center. For more information, call Sgt. Jeanette Newell at 533-1705/1706 .

Golden Corral honors military

The Disabled American Veterans in conjunction with Golden Corral restaurant will host a Military Appreciation Night on Nov. 12 for all veterans and active duty soldiers. From 5 to 9 p.m. the restaurant will offer a free dinner buffet and beverage. DAV will be there with information for veterans and active duty soldiers about support programs available.

Combat Lifesaver courses set

There have been program changes made to the Combat Lifesaver Course on Fort Huachuca. FH Regulation 40-2 covers training of Combat Lifesavers and tasks authorized to be performed on the installation. The publication can be found on the Fort Huachuca Homepage at <http://huachuca-www.army.mil>. The schedule for courses for fiscal year 2002 is as follows:

Combat Lifesaver Correspondence Course (for new personnel): Dec. 3-5, 2001; March 4-6, 2002; June 3-5, 2002; and Sept. 9-11, 2002.

Combat Lifesaver Recertification Course (for expired personnel): Dec. 6-7, 2001; March 7-8, 2002; June 6-7, 2002; and Sept. 12-13, 2002.

Combat Lifesaver Refresher Course (for current personnel): Dec. 7, 2001; March 8, 2002; June 7, 2002; and Sept. 13, 2002.

Requests for slots with all documentation required in FH Reg. 40-2 should be sent through battalion and/or brigade S-3 channels to the post G-3 schools NCO. Questions on course content can be directed to Staff Sgt. Jose Lupian or Staff Sgt. Daniel Traver at Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center at 533-4758/3727.

MICA seeks volunteers

The Military Intelligence Corps Association gift shop at the MI Museum on Fort Huachuca is in desperate need of volunteers. The shop hours are 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Mondays, Wednes-

days and Fridays.

Ride with U.S. Cavalry

Cavalry troopers with the dash, discipline and daring to preserve and promote the traditions of the B Troop 4th U.S. Cavalry Regiment are needed. Membership is voluntary and open to male permanent party soldiers, retirees and DoD civilians. Call Maj. Robert Blanchette at 538-0822 or e-mail blanchetterobert@otc.army.mil. Women may volunteer for the Ladies Auxiliary. Ground School meets at 5 p.m. every Thursday at the Private Stables of Buffalo Corral. For information, visit <http://huachuca-www.army.mil/USAG/BTROOP/BTROOP.HTM>.

Troops to Teachers needed

Military veterans have established a solid reputation as excellent teachers and exemplary role models for today's students. If you're thinking about becoming a teacher, call the Arizona Troops to Teachers Office at 1-800-830-2134.

Commanders Access Channel

Did you know the Fort Huachuca Commander's Access Channel 97 is on Cox cable channel 97 on your television, whether you live on post or in Sierra Vista?

The CAC is a great way for you to inform the Fort Huachuca and Sierra Vista community about what's happening in your organization. It's updated daily with upcoming events and activities that may be of interest to you.

The Public Affairs Office also airs videotapes provided by Soldiers Radio and Television on the CAC as a way of keeping our viewers informed about current events in the Army.

To air an announcement or for more information, call Pat Dillingham at 533-1850.

Foster families needed

Devereux Arizona is a private, non-profit organization funded by the Arizona Department of Economic Security and donations. It is currently seeking qualified, loving families to become foster parents for children. Currently, there is a need for respite providers (short-term foster care overnights, weekends or holidays), family based shelter providers (foster care-overnights up to three months, sometimes longer) and therapeutic providers (long term foster care three months or longer for children with more severe emotional or physical needs or a longer history of abuse or neglect). For more information, call 458-2761. Free local training and 24-hour crisis support is provided.

Vanpool commuters

The federal government mass transportation subsidy program is now available to vanpool commuters. The vanpool that serves Fort Huachuca has five vans and is considering an additional van if enough federal workers apply for membership.

For more information, call Ken Van Karsen at 533-8200 or 615-1866.

Amount of Insurance	Age of Spouse				
	34 & below	35-44	45-49	50-54	55 & over
\$100,000	\$9.00	\$13.00	\$20.00	\$32.00	\$55.00
\$ 90,000	\$8.10	\$11.70	\$18.00	\$28.80	\$49.50
\$ 80,000	\$7.20	\$10.40	\$16.00	\$25.60	\$44.00
\$ 70,000	\$6.30	\$ 9.10	\$14.00	\$22.40	\$38.50
\$ 60,000	\$5.40	\$ 7.80	\$12.00	\$19.20	\$33.00
\$ 50,000	\$4.50	\$ 6.50	\$10.00	\$16.00	\$27.50
\$ 40,000	\$3.60	\$ 5.20	\$ 8.00	\$12.80	\$22.00
\$ 30,000	\$2.70	\$ 3.90	\$ 6.00	\$ 9.60	\$16.50
\$ 20,000	\$1.80	\$ 2.60	\$ 4.00	\$ 6.40	\$11.00
\$ 10,000	\$0.90	\$ 1.30	\$ 2.00	\$ 3.20	\$ 5.50

Listed above are the monthly premiums for coverage for your spouse based on his or her age and amount of coverage.

Letters from Page 3

home through the "Letters To The Front Worldwide Letter Writing Contest," said coordinator Marsha Roberts of Rector-Roberts Productions. "It's open to anyone, but school children are the biggest participants and the soldiers are delighted to hear from them.

Teachers often make the letter-writing contest a classroom activity.

A platoon sergeant in an infantry unit overseas wrote to say "your contest is a great idea because not only does it lift a soldier's sprints while he is so far from home, but it gets the next generation to take an interest in the people defending their country," according to Roberts.

"My entire platoon of twenty people read your letter," wrote an ambulance platoon leader

from Camp Bondstell, Kosovo. "It changed our outlook and brightened our day."

Contest entrants write a letter of support of 100-150 words, starting with: "Dear Service Member, I just wanted to say thanks for..." the letter, attached to an entry form, must be mailed to "Letters To The Front, P.O. Box 25348, Alexandria, VA 22313.

All letters must be postmarked no later than Veterans' Day, Nov. 11, 2001. Commissaries do not accept entries or participate in the judging, but entry forms are available on displays at more commissaries. Entry forms can also be accessed at the "What's New" link on www.commissaries.com.

Prizes for best letters are awarded in age

groups and the grand prize is a \$3,000 computer. Last years winners included a 15-year-old military dependent and an Air Force chaplain, but this year the prizes will take a back seat for most participants.

"The letters sent overseas to service members at the holidays and their overwhelming pleasure at getting them, is much more important," says Mike Watson, regional operations manager for military sales at General Mills, one of the sponsors of "Letters to the Front."

The letter-writing contest is an offshoot of the long-running play "Letters From the Front," which will have a somewhat abbreviated schedule this fall due to heightened military activity and security.

"The show will go on," said Roberts, who is also the play's producer. The play's fall tour currently includes visits to Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., on Oct. 25; Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., on Oct. 29-30; Fort Knox, Ky., on Nov. 2-3; Fort Polk, La., on Nov. 6; and Andrews Air Force Base, Md., on Nov. 9.

The play inspires audiences wherever it travels, but the letter-writing contest is truly for everyone.

"This is one project we support that makes us feel good," said Gary Boyle, manager of military corporate development at General Mills. "Especially when we see 10,000 letters going overseas — and then see the letters of appreciation coming back from service members."

Pets of the Week



“Heathcliff” is an eleven month-old male short-haired orange tabby cat. He is already neutered and would make someone a great companion. His adoption fee is \$32, which includes all vaccinations, a feline leukemia test, a microchip and deworming.



“Ebony” is a beautiful, young adult female black and brown doberman/greyhound mix. She has a lot of energy and would make a great companion dog for hiking! She has been in the stray facility for over three months, and really needs to find a great home. Her adoption fee is \$52, which includes a spay, a microchip, all vaccinations, a heartworm test and deworming.



“Oreo” is a young adult female black and white short-haired cat. She is a bit shy and would probably be best in a family with older kids. Her adoption fee is \$42, which includes a spay, a feline leukemia test, a microchip, all vaccinations and deworming.



“Gina” is an 11 month-old black female shepherd mix. She is very friendly and would be a great family pet. She was found on the side of the road in Huachuca City and would love a new home with lots of T.L.C.! Her adoption fee is \$52, which includes a spay, a microchip, all vaccinations, a heartworm test and deworming.

These and several other dogs and cats are available at the Fort Huachuca Veterinary Treatment Facility from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. The facility is now open through lunch. For information, call 533-2767.

AMC announces new policy on shipping pets

Policy increases max allowable weight to 150 pounds

By Christine Spargur
Air Mobility Command Public Affairs
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill. — After a three-month test, Air Mobility Command has instituted a new policy that increases the maximum allowable weight for shipping dogs and cats from 99 to 150 pounds. The new limit is the combined weight of both the pet and its kennel on Patriot Express contract carrier flights to and from overseas

locations. The policy, which will begin this month, also states that no more than two pets per family will be allowed. The only exception will be for those who shipped more than two pets overseas under the previous policy outlined in Defense Regulation DOD 4500.9-R. Cindy Rothenbach, a traffic management specialist with the Passenger Policy Branch

at AMC, said, “If passengers fall into this category they must provide their travel office with documentation that shows proof that they moved with more than two pets. This proof could be either an original pet waiver approval or a boarding pass.” To prevent any delays in boarding, passengers should ensure that an accurate measurement of the total weight of their pet and its kennel be entered into the GATES, or Global Air Transportation Execution System, prior to

arriving at the aerial port. Passengers who arrive at the port with a pet and kennel weighing 20 percent more than that recorded in the system may lose the space reserved for their pet. Rothenbach said passengers are also required to use a hard-shell kennel that allows their pet enough room to stand up and move around comfortably. Soft-sided or collapsible containers will not be accepted.

Chalk talk

Myer Elementary School release
Desire Madarangs’s fifth-grade class said the recent bike rodeo was a big hit with them. Kids on the Block performed a neat puppet show before the rodeo, but their favorite part, by far, was the obstacle course. Students are reminded to always wear their helmets when riding bikes Kim Tomlin’s fifth-grade class is currently working on place value in math. All of her students can read numbers up to the billions place. The class is also studying explorers in social studies and tornadoes in reading. Tomlin recently appointed class officers for the class. They are Daniel Booher, president; Ryan Morris, vice president; Kristina Chesleigh, treasurer; and Stephanie Harrell, secretary. The officers are responsible for helping Tomlin with daily routines, leading classroom meetings and many other special jobs around the classroom. Audrey Mapoles’ fifth graders will begin their poetry books in October. They will write a cowboy poem for the annual cowboy poetry contest.

have started a figure drawing unit, using gesture drawing of live student models and forming foil action figures to pose in many ways. Her fifth graders have made paper mache puppet heads, which they are decorating with paint and yarn. Once they glue their puppet heads onto their cloth puppet bodies, they will have the opportunity to introduce their “famous person” to the class. Linda Dailing’s fourth-grade music classes are studying the composer Ludwig Van Beethoven. Her fifth-grade students are studying the composer Johann Sebastian Bach. Both grades are beginning their preparation for their Christmas programs. The Myer Choir is also practicing and preparing for their performances for Christmas. The students in Terry Aguon’s and Bonnie Austin’s Resource Room earned an ice cream activity for September. During October, the students will be writing, reading and working hard in math to earn a trip to the bowling alley on Nov. 2.

Book Fair ongoing
Come one, come all and join in the fun. The theme of the fair is Books are Magic. The Book Fair will run through Monday, 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. every day. Appearances by Clifford and Snow White have helped to make it a success. To close out the Book Fair on Monday, parents and children are invited to have breakfast with Clifford in the library from 7 to 8 a.m.

PSTO meets
The Parent, Student, Teacher Organization will meet today at 6 p.m. in Myer gym. Peer mediators train
Peer Mediators are receiving ‘on the job’ training. They are excited about having their own red peer mediation shirt and their own nametag button. Peer mediators are not only used to help with playground disputes, but they will also be used to help make posters, to act as tour guides for the school, and to help with special programs and activities.

Red Ribbon Week
All the students will be taking part in making a ‘chain’ with messages they create about drug free issues. The students will be taking a walk around the track to open the week. There will be an essay contest, and students will wear red to show support. Students will bring a stuffed animal one day for Hugs Not Drugs and will decorate the fence to let the public know Myer is drug free. There will also be an annual food drive.



Photo by Sgt. Sharron L. Stewart

A dogs life

Clifford met Morgan O'Connor, 10, Brian Becker, 8 and Michel Becker, 4 at the recent ongoing Myer Elementary School book fair. Marsha Hamrick, Myer Elementary School media specialist said book fairs are held twice a year.

Magellan Running Club
Top fourth-grade girl Julia Paulsen from Tom Crawford’s room with 38 points. Top fourth-grade boy Billy Rae Ware with 43 points from Jan Barnes’ room. Top fourth-grade class was Priscilla Mendoxa’s room with 497 points. Top fifth-grade girl Maria Bowman from Kim Tomlin’s room with 53 points. Top fifth-grade boy George Beck from Kim Tomlin’s room with

61 points. Top fifth-grade class was Bonnie Burleson’s room with 639 points. Myer students accumulated 957 miles last week with a total of 5,618 miles for the year. Report cards
The first quarter has ended. Report cards will be going home Oct. 30. Return them as soon as possible.